



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

MITOCHONDRIAL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Mitochondria are located in every cell of the human body and create more than 90 percent of the body's energy. Unfortunately, mitochondria may not function properly due to genetic defects, damage caused by narcotics, or destructive molecules called free radicals; and

WHEREAS: Mitochondrial disease prevents the body from turning food into energy, which can cause a wide range of health issues such as seizures, low blood counts, blindness, dementia, heart failure, and progressive muscle weakness; and

WHEREAS: Mitochondrial disease can cause symptoms at any age and significantly compromises the lives of affected individuals. While no cure currently exists, early diagnosis can help patients and their families use proper medications and nutritional supplements to improve quality of life and even prolong life; and

WHEREAS: At least 150 families in Georgia are dealing with this relatively unknown and misunderstood disease; and

WHEREAS: Greater public awareness of mitochondrial disease can help to minimize the devastating effects of this illness; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2018 as MITOCHONDRIAL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 3rd day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF